

CNRSEINST 3140.1G  
N3  
28 Apr 04

**COMMANDER, NAVY REGION SOUTHEAST INSTRUCTION 3140.1G**

Subj: DESTRUCTIVE WEATHER PLAN

Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 3140.24F  
(b) COMLANTFLT 211506ZMAR03  
(c) COMLANTFLT 021545ZMAY02  
(d) CINCLANTFLTINST 5400.2M CH3  
(e) COMNAVAIRLANTINST 3141.1L

Encl: (1) Weather Warning Definitions  
(2) Saffir/Simpson Hurricane Category Definitions  
(3) ALPHA, BRAVO, and CHARLIE Area Map  
(4) Sample Activity Hurricane Preparation Guide

1. **Purpose.** To publish guidance for destructive weather Conditions of Readiness (CORs) in the Commander, Navy Region Southeast (CNRSE) Area of Responsibility (AOR).

2. **Cancellation.** CNRSEINST 3140.1F. This instruction contains substantial revisions and should be reviewed in its entirety.

3. **Discussion**

a. References (a) and (b) provide destructive weather guidance and establish CORs for tropical cyclones (e.g., tropical storms and hurricanes) in anticipation of destructive winds. Although the main body of this instruction focuses on CORs, enclosure (1) provides details on a variety of different hazardous weather warnings. Enclosure (2) provides amplifying information for hurricane strength categories based on the Saffir/Simpson Scale.

b. Hazardous weather elements include high wind gusts, high sustained winds, thunderstorms, tornadoes, hail and/or lightning. The Navy's Regional Weather Facility, NAVLANTMETOCFAC Jacksonville, local base NAVLANTMETOC Detachments and the National Weather Service (NWS) issue hazardous weather warnings. For tropical hazardous weather, NAVLANTMETOCFAC Jacksonville will issue appropriate warnings and conditions of readiness including tropical wind warnings or tropical cyclone CORs.

28 Apr 04

c. Sustained tropical winds of 34-49 knots are hazardous winds. NAVLANTMETOCFAC Jacksonville will issue **Tropical Wind Warnings** for anticipated winds of 34-49 knots.

d. Sustained tropical winds of 50 knots and greater are destructive winds. CNRSE will order **Tropical Cyclone CORs** when tropical cyclone winds of 50 knots or greater are anticipated. CNRSE will then collate reports of attainment from the region's 17 designated "reporting commands" and forward to COMLANTFLT. CORs are based upon timelines for the onset of destructive winds. However, preparations should be made for all anticipated weather to include wind, seas, storm surge (increases in sea level due to tropical cyclone winds piling up water in coastal regions), flooding and tornadoes.

e. Basic Tropical Cyclone COR Definitions and Actions:

(1) COR 5 - Destructive winds possible within 96 hours.

**Due to the geographic location of the CNRSE AOR, all commands are directed to maintain COR 5 as a minimum state of readiness from 01 JUN - 30 NOV.** CNRSE will order COR 5 on 1 June of each year via DMS message using the CAD HURRIWARNSE.

(2) COR 4 - Destructive winds possible within 72 hours.

(a) The CNRSE Hurricane Duty Officer is located at NAVLANTMETOCFAC Jacksonville and will establish a 24/7 watch upon setting of COR 4.

(b) Commands within COR 4 commence tracking storm and warn all tenants under your cognizance.

(c) Review destructive weather plans and commence planning for actions required in higher CORs to safeguard personnel and material (e.g., Hurricane Planning Conference for Aircraft Evacuation).

(d) Continue general operations.

(e) All commands take full precautionary measures to establish the next higher condition on short notice.

(3) COR 3 - Destructive winds possible within 48 hours.

28 Apr 04

(a) Take preliminary precautions in accordance with regional and local destructive weather plans.

(b) All commands take full precautionary measures to establish the next higher condition on short notice.

(4) COR 2 - Destructive winds anticipated within 24 hours.

(a) All commands and activities execute local destructive weather directives.

(b) All commands take full precautionary measures to establish the next higher condition on short notice.

(5) COR 1 - Destructive winds are occurring or anticipated within 12 hours. **Take all possible precautions to safeguard personnel and material.**

f. Reference (c) assigns CNRSE as the regional coordinator with responsibility for ordering destructive weather warnings and Tropical Cyclone CORs in Areas ALPHA, BRAVO, CHARLIE (areas C1, C3 and C4), Puerto Rico, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba and Andros Island, Bahamas. Enclosure (3) is a map and description of the ALPHA, BRAVO and CHARLIE areas.

g. Tropical Cyclone CORs are disseminated via DMS message from CNRSE using the CAD **HURRIWARNSE** and are available via web page and e-mail. Web address: <http://www.cnrse.navy.mil> (weather link) or <https://www.nlmof.navy.mil/weather/tropical.htm>. E-mail: [hdo@nlmof.navy.mil](mailto:hdo@nlmof.navy.mil). Phone DSN 942-2541 x113 or x119, COMM (904)542-2541 x113 or x119. Additional information is available from the CNRSE Hurricane Duty Officer (HDO). Those commands desiring record copy of Tropical Cyclone COR messages should contact NAVLANTMETOCFAC Command Duty Officer (CDO) or HDO for inclusion into the CAD HURRIWARNSE.

h. CORs for destructive weather of other than tropical cyclone origin (e.g., winter storms) are set by local commands and activities (normally by the host command for each installation).

i. Nothing in this instruction shall alleviate the inherent responsibility of local commanders to set higher CORs as they deem appropriate to ensure the safety of their personnel and facilities.

28 Apr 04

4. Coordination

a. Commanding Officer, Naval Station Guantanamo Bay is delegated responsibility for ordering CORs, and making consolidated Naval Station attainment reports to CNRSE HDO by phone, e-mail or interactive web site:

Note: It is incumbent upon the CO of Guantanamo Bay to ensure close coordination with both CNRSE and Joint Task Force GTMO to ensure operational concerns are addressed.

b. The following commands are designated as reporting commands. When CORs are ordered in an area, the reporting command will report attainment of the ordered COR to CNRSE Hurricane Duty Officer by voice, e-mail or web page.

<u>AREA</u>	<u>REPORTING COMMANDS</u>
ALPHA ONE	Naval Weapons Station, Charleston, SC
ALPHA TWO	Naval Air Station, Atlanta, GA Naval Supply School, Athens, GA
ALPHA THREE	None
BRAVO ONE	Naval Air Station, Jacksonville, FL Naval Station, Mayport, FL Submarine Base, Kings Bay, GA
BRAVO TWO	None
BRAVO THREE	Naval Ordnance Test Unit, Cape Canaveral, FL Military Sealift Command Office, Port Canaveral, FL Naval Support Activity Orlando, FL
BRAVO FOUR	None
BRAVO FIVE	Naval Air Station, Key West, FL
CHARLIE ONE	Stennis Space Center, MS Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, MS Naval Station Pascagoula, MS
CHARLIE TWO	**

28 Apr 04

CHARLIE THREE      Naval Support Activity, Panama City, FL

CHARLIE FOUR      Naval Air Station, Meridian, MS

AUTEC              AUTEC Officer in Charge

PUERTO RICO        Naval Activity Puerto Rico

\*\* Commander Navy Region Gulf Coast directs CORs for this area.

5. **Action**

a. Ordering CORs:

(1) CNRSE Staff Meteorologist will direct the ordering of appropriate CORs for the CNRSE AOR. Tropical Cyclone CORs are based on information contained in warnings from Naval Atlantic Meteorology and Oceanographic Center (NAVLANTMETOCEN) Norfolk, VA and the National Hurricane Center. Messages that order CORs contain forecasts of the maximum sustained winds expected. CORs will be ordered for each area designated in enclosure (3) as the storm track warrants. Local commanders may order a higher COR at their discretion and will report the attainment and termination of each COR placed in effect on their own accord to the CNRSE HDO.

(2) Per reference (b), all Atlantic Fleet activities will use a Tropical Cyclone COR with a 50 knot threshold vice the two tiered Tropical Storm (34-64kts) and Hurricane (65+ kts) system used by the National Weather Service. CORs will be ordered based upon the size and forecast track of the cyclone, not just on the maximum sustained winds at the center of the system. Be alert for rapid changes in wind speeds when forecasts are amended.

(3) Communication centers in receipt of a Tropical Cyclone COR message are responsible for its dissemination to local units.

(4) Host commands in receipt of a COR message are responsible for ensuring that tenants are appropriately notified.

b. COR Attainment Reporting:

28 Apr 04

(1) Host commands establish local reporting procedures for tenant commands. Tenants and local units report COR attainment to the host command.

(2) Host activities, which are designated "Reporting Commands" in paragraph 4b, shall make a consolidated report to the CNRSE/NAVLANTMETOCFAC HDO.

(3) Other designated "Reporting Commands" report attainment to CNRSE HDO.

(4) Make attainment reports via voice, e-mail or web page entry to the CNRSE/NAVLANTMETOCFAC HDO:  
Phone: commercial (904) 542-2541 x113 or x119, DSN: 942-2541 x113 or x114. E-mail: [hdo@nlmof.navy.mil](mailto:hdo@nlmof.navy.mil). Websites: <http://www.cnrse.navy.mil> (weather link) or <https://www.nlmof.navy.mil/weather/tropical.htm>.

Note: DMS messages will not be used to report COR attainment.

c. Securing from Tropical Cyclone CORs: NAVLANTMETOCFAC Jacksonville, under authority as Staff Meteorologist to CNRSE, will direct securing of appropriate CORs for the CNRSE AOR.

d. All Navy or Marine Corps commands/activities in the CNRSE AOR shall comply with the following:

(1) Annually, two weeks prior to the start of the Navy's Hurricane Exercise (HURREX), all "Reporting Commands" (para 4b) provide the CNRSE Staff METOC Officer with name, phone number and e-mail of the command's 24/7 point of contact for COR notification and attainment reporting for the upcoming tropical cyclone season. Forward this information via voice or email to the HDO: commercial (904) 542-2541 x119, DSN 942-2541 x119 or e-mail [hdo@nlmof.navy.mil](mailto:hdo@nlmof.navy.mil). The reporting command POC must be available 24/7 during tropical season and is usually the installation CDO.

(2) As applicable, prepare and maintain a destructive weather plan to include:

(a) Provisions for safety of property, equipment and personnel during periods of destructive weather and considering seasonal potential for destructive weather.

(b) Use of available radar facilities to detect and track local storms. In areas where NAVLANTMETOC command

28 Apr 04

activities are not assigned, take advantage of storm warning information disseminated by the NWS, NOAA Weather Radio or other Department of Defense (DOD) weather units.

(c) Instructions to relay tropical cyclone and destructive weather warnings to tenant commands and subordinate units.

(d) Procedures for attaining CORs at each host installation. All tenant commands and activities are required to have individual destructive weather plans.

(e) Per references (d) and (e), evacuation plans to include prearranged logistic support as required.

(3) Attain CORs for destructive weather when directed by CNRSE or local host command.

(4) Establish procedures to disseminate destructive weather warnings to tenants and subordinates as necessary for local protection, as applicable.

(5) Prior to 1 May of each year, make a thorough and detailed inspection of material condition, emergency preparedness and logistic preparations for the hurricane season (1 June through 30 November). Use enclosure (4) as a guide. Review emergency procedures periodically throughout the hurricane season.

(6) Continue to perform normal mission and functions to the maximum extent possible during destructive weather.

(7) Render maximum support to fleet units during destructive weather.

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Distribution: (CNRSEINST 5605.1C)  
List I

28 Apr 04

**WEATHER WARNING DEFINITIONS**

## 1. Weather Terminology

a. Terminology used in CNRSE Warnings

<u>Types of Destructive Weather</u>	<u>Corresponding Wind Speed and Weather</u>
TROPICAL WIND WARNING	Winds 34 - 49 knots (associated with a tropical system). Heavy rains, thunderstorms, lightning, tornadoes, storm surge and hail may also be expected.
TROPICAL CYCLONE COR	Tropical system with winds 50 knots or greater. Heavy rains, thunderstorms, lightning, tornadoes, storm surge and hail may also be expected.
THUNDERSTORM	Thunderstorms are forecast to impact the warning area with gusty winds with velocities less than 50 knots. Lightning and thunder can be expected; hail, if any, less than 3/4 inch in diameter.
SEVERE THUNDERSTORM	Severe thunderstorms with wind gusts 50 knots or greater. Lightning, thunder and hail, if any, 3/4 inch or greater in diameter are forecast to impact the warning area.
TORNADO	Tornadoes have been sighted or detected by RADAR in or adjacent to the warning area, or have a strong potential to develop in the warning area.
SMALL CRAFT WARNING	Winds up to 33 knots (including gusts). The lower threshold for issuing such warning is set by local area authority.

Enclosure (1)



28 Apr 04

GALE WARNING

Sustained winds (non tropical)  
between 34 and 47 knots.

STORM WARNING

Sustained winds (non tropical)  
of 48 knots or greater.

b. Terminology used by the National Weather Service

SEVERE THUNDERSTORM OR TORNADO  
WATCH

Conditions are conducive for  
tornadic activity and/or severe  
thunderstorms within and close  
to the watch area.

SEVERE THUNDERSTORM OR TORNADO  
WARNING

A severe thunderstorm or  
tornado has been confirmed by  
observation or indicated by  
weather radar. Persons close  
to the storm should take cover  
immediately. Those further  
away should take cover if  
threatening conditions  
approach.

TROPICAL STORM/HURRICANE WATCH

Tropical Storm/Hurricane poses  
a possible threat to a  
specified coastal area within  
36 hours.

TROPICAL STORM/HURRICANE  
WARNING

Tropical Storm/Hurricane force  
winds are expected in a  
specified coastal area within  
24 hours.

2. Warnings. Warnings of destructive weather will be issued in  
the following forms:

a. Tropical Cyclone Warnings: Issued by NAVLANTMETOCEN  
Norfolk to the collective Hurricane Warnings Atlantic (CAD:  
HURRIWARNLANT) and received by all military communications  
centers within CNRSE AOR. The CNRSE Staff Meteorologist will  
issue a **Tropical Wind Warning** and/or order a **Tropical Cyclone  
Condition of Readiness (COR)** for affected sub-regional areas  
within CNRSE AOR using the CAD HURRIWARNSE.

b. Local Area Warnings: Thunderstorm, tornado, gale and  
storm warnings, as defined in paragraph 1, are issued by tenant  
NAVLANTMETOC activities for their host installation during hours  
of operation. After normal hours, NAVLANTMETOCFAC Jacksonville

28 Apr 04

or local NWS office will assume this responsibility. Small craft warnings will only be issued by local NAVLANTMETOC activities as required by local commanders. NWS warnings should always be heeded and, in many cases, may serve as the only source of weather watches and warnings.

(1) Thunderstorm/Tornado Conditions: Set by host commanders based on recommendations of NAVLANTMETOCFAC Jacksonville or the tenant NAVLANTMETOC activity in accordance with local destructive weather plans. Host commands will inform local units and local units take precautions that will permit appropriate protection of personnel and material on short notice. Commands or activities not serviced by a NAVLANTMETOC activity will set thunderstorm/tornado conditions based on information received through local news media or weather agencies.

(a) Thunderstorm/Tornado Condition 2: Destructive winds accompanying the phenomena are expected in the general area within six hours. Lightning, thunder and hail are anticipated.

(b) Thunderstorm/Tornado Condition 1: Destructive winds of force indicated accompanying the phenomena are imminent. Lightning, thunder and hail are anticipated. An advance warning time of no less than 30 minutes is desired to allow sufficient time for notification and precautionary action by local units. However, this is not always practical and host commands will inform local units as soon as possible with all units taking immediate precautions to protect personnel and material.

c. Warnings and conditions of readiness will be disseminated to designated activities via telephone and/or e-mail.

d. Host commands with a tenant NAVLANTMETOC activity receive warnings from their local activity. NAVLANTMETOCFAC Jacksonville assumes the warning responsibility for SUBASE Kings Bay, 24 hours a day and for NAVSTA Mayport, NAS Key West, NAS Pensacola, NAS Whiting Field, NAS Meridian, CSS Panama City and NAVSTA Guantanamo Bay when a forecaster is not on site.

e. Gale/Storm Conditions: Gale and storm conditions have the same time and preparation criteria as tropical cyclone conditions. While these situations are infrequent in Florida,

CNRSEINST 3140.1G

28 Apr 04

COR for their occurrence must be included in local destructive weather plans and will be set locally as required.

**SAFFIR/SIMPSON HURRICANE CATEGORY DEFINITIONS**

1. Hurricane Categories: Hurricane intensity and expected damage is categorized according to the Saffir-Simpson scale. The scale ranges from categories one through five, with five being the most severe. The categories and their effects are:

a. Category One

(1) Winds 65 to 82 knots (75 to 95 miles per hour). Damage primarily to shrubbery, trees, foliage and unanchored mobile homes. No real damage to permanent building structures.

(2) Storm Surge, four to five feet above mean water level. Low-lying coastal roads inundated, minor pier damage.

b. Category Two

(1) Winds 83 to 95 knots (96 to 110 miles per hour). Considerable damage to shrubbery and tree foliage with some trees blown down. Major structural damage to exposed mobile homes. Some damage to roofing material, windows and doors. No major damage to permanent building structures.

(2) Storm Surge, six to eight feet above mean water level. Coastal roads and low-lying escape routes inland cut by rising water. Considerable pier damage and marinas flooded. Evacuation of some shoreline residences and low-lying island areas required.

c. Category Three

(1) Winds 96 to 113 knots (111 to 130 miles per hour). Damage to shrubbery and trees. Foliage off trees, large trees blown down. Some roofing material damage; some window and door damage; some structural damage to small residences and utility buildings. Mobile homes destroyed. Minor amount of curtain wall failures.

(2) Storm Surge, 9 to 12 feet above mean water level. Serious flooding along coast with many smaller structures near coast destroyed. Larger structures damaged by battering of floating debris. Low-lying escape routes inland cut by rising water.

d. Category Four

(1) Winds 114 to 135 knots (131 to 155 miles per hour). Shrubs and trees down. Extensive roofing material damage; extensive window and door damage. Complete failure of roof structures on many small residences and complete destruction of mobile homes.

(2) Storm Surge, 13 to 18 feet above mean water level. Major damage to lower floors of structures near the shore due to flooding and battering action. Low-lying escape routes inland cut by rising water. Major erosion of beach areas.

e. Category Five

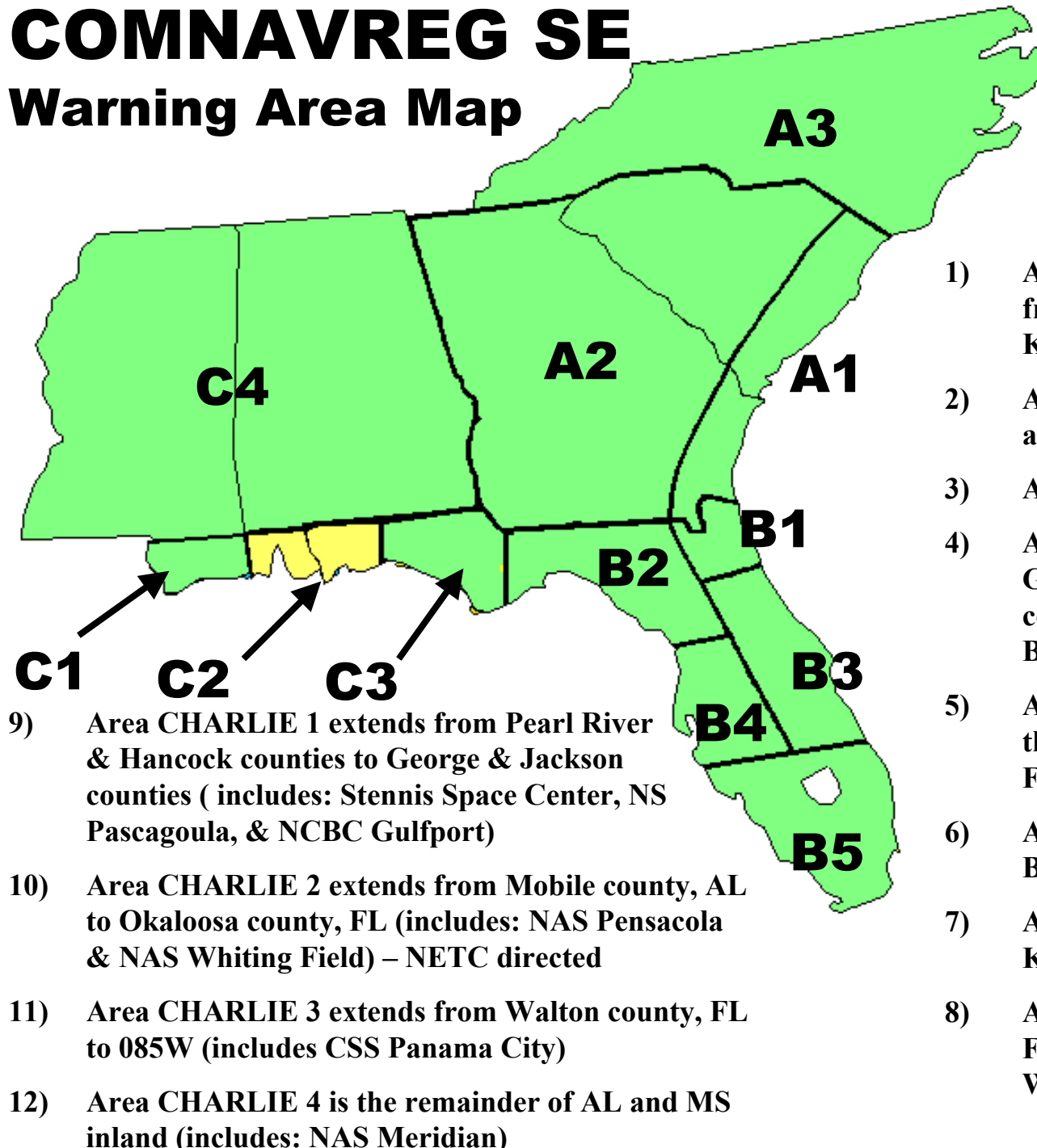
(1) Winds greater than 135 knots (155 miles per hour). Shrubs and trees down and roofing damage considerable. Very severe and extensive window and door damage. Complete failure of roof structures on many residences and industrial buildings; extensive glass failure; some complete building failures; small buildings overturned and blown over or away and complete destruction of mobile homes. Major power distribution failures causing loss of water and sewer for an extended period.

(2) Storm Surge, greater than 18 feet above mean water level. Major damage to lower floors of all structures. Low-lying escape routes inland cut by rising water. Evacuation of residential areas situated on low ground within 5 to 10 miles of the shoreline may be required.

# COMNAVREG SE

## Warning Area Map

CNRSEINST 3140.1G  
28 Apr 04



- 1) Area ALPHA 1 is coastal SC and GA from the NC / SC border to north of Kings Bay, GA
- 2) Area ALPHA 2 is the remainder of GA and SC inland
- 3) Area ALPHA 3 is all of NC
- 4) Area BRAVO 1 includes Kings Bay, GA, Camden, Charlton and Glynn counties (GA) and extends to Flagler Beach, FL
- 5) Area BRAVO 2 extends from 085W on the Florida panhandle to Anclote Key, FL
- 6) Area BRAVO 3 extends from Flagler Beach, FL to Stuart, FL
- 7) Area BRAVO 4 extends from Anclote Key, FL to Venice, FL
- 8) Area BRAVO 5 extends from Stuart, FL to Venice, FL and includes Key West and the Florida Keys

Enclosure (3)

28 Apr 04

**SAMPLE ACTIVITY HURRICANE PREPARATION GUIDE**

In preparation for the hurricane season, all commands should complete the following checklist of precautionary items prior to 1 June each year.

Make thorough periodic checks of emergency teams, emergency facilities (including command posts) and emergency forces.

Provide instructions on the proper method of venting enclosed buildings and structures using windows, storm shutters and similar means.

Make a careful inspection of buildings and surrounding areas in order to detect and remove potential sources of danger such as: Damaged, worn or improperly secured doors, windows or ventilation openings. Structural weaknesses resulting in worn or weather-beaten supports, i.e., wooden light poles and similar constructs. Gutters and drain pipes on buildings that are clogged, worn or otherwise incapable of normal operation. Storm drains, sewers, holding ponds and catch basins, which have not been cleaned out and made ready for maximum capacity operation. Hazardous trees, especially those with rotted limbs or trunks.

Ensure that "hurricane kits" and emergency supply lockers are fully stocked with useable materials necessary to perform elementary repairs to electric power and lighting installations, plumbing, water systems and heating equipment.

Locate and mark all material that could be a potential missile hazard in hurricane force winds, including garbage cans, loose lumber, pails, benches and similar loose gear. Be prepared to move these items to safe storage or have them lashed down.

Locate protected high ground for stowage of rolling stock to minimize damage from flooding.

Because some automotive equipment must be used during storm conditions, ensure that driver's compartments and cabs are as weather tight as possible; windshield wipers are fully operational; tire chains are available for operations in mud; and towing wires and chains are prepared in advance. Maintain an adequate supply of spare parts and tires for the vehicles themselves.

28 Apr 04

Inspect and test all auxiliary systems such as communications, electric, light, power and water supply. Verify that all firefighting and water pumping equipment is operational. Ensure that procedures and methods are adequate and ready for practical application under the most severe conditions.

Ensure that all personnel understand the procedures to be followed in the event an evacuation is ordered. They should know evacuation routes and what to take when they leave their designated refuge base, and when and where they are expected to muster and how to contact official Navy representatives and their command after the storm has passed.

Prepare a comprehensive recovery plan to implement after storm passage. Include detailed procedures for restoration of essential services, personnel recall and installation clean up.